

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 082522

64

ORIGIN IO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/LABW:APALMER:OF

APPROVED BY: IO:DMCCLELLAN

----- 081250

P R 062042Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 082522

FOLLOWING REPEAT FREETOWN 1000 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GENEVA
USUN 05 APR

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 1000

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG ILO

SUBJECT: COMMENT OF ILO OFFICIALS ON US LETTER OF INTENT TO
WITHDRAW

SUMMARY: DURING JUST-CONCLUDED FREETOWN 14TH AFRICAN
LABOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, TOP ILO OFFICIALS ACTIVELY
SOUGHT OUT AMBASSADOR, REGIONAL LABOR ATTACHE, AND AALC
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR O'FARRELL TO EXPRESS VIEWS ON U.S.
LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW. THEY AGREED THAT AFRICANS
DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE FOCUSED ON ISSUE, AND REPORT SOME
RESENTMENT THAT AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN HAS ONLY TRAVELLED
TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THEY SUGGESTED THAT VISIT BY A
HIGH-LEVEL US DELEGATION TO KEY AFRICAN CAPITALS MIGHT
PROVE USEFUL IF PRECEDED BY CAREFUL GROUNDWORK.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 082522

END SUMMARY:

1. THROUGHOUT JUST-CONCLUDED FREETOWN 14TH AFRICAN LABOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, TOP ILO OFFICIALS, INCLUDING DG BLANCHARD, DEPUTY DG BOLIN, BENTUM, AND ADOSSAMA ACTIVELY SOUGHT OUT AMBASSADOR, REGIONAL LABOR ATTACHE AND AALC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATRICK O'FARRELL IN CORRIDORS AND AT SOCIAL EVENTS TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON US LETTER OF INTENT, AND ON THEIR PERCEPTION OF AFRICAN REACTIONS. THEY AGREED THAT AFRICANS DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE FOCUSED ON THE ISSUE, AND THOSE THAT HAVE GENERALLY MISUNDERSTAND US POSITION, MOTIVATION, AND SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH QUESTION IS TAKEN BY USG. IN THEIR VIEW, WHILE SOME RADICAL AFRICAN STATES WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE US WITHDRAW, MAJORITY WOULD NOT AND EITHER 1) BELIEVES US IS BLUFFING (QUOTE AFTER ALL, YOU HAVE DONE IT BEFORE UNQUOTE) OR 2) IS RESIGNED IN BELIEF THAT US HAS ALREADY DECIDED TO PULL OUT.

2. BOLIN AND BENTUM ESPECIALLY PRESSED HARD FOR VISITS TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN GENERAL AND AFRICA IN PARTICULAR BY AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN BOTH CLAIMED TO HAVE SENSED FEELING OF RESENTMENT ON PART OF SOME LDCS THAT AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN HAS SO FAR LARGELY CONFINED HIS TRAVELS TO INDUSTRIAL, WESTERN-ORIENTED COUNTRIES (QUOTE AND YOU DON'T NEED TO CONVINCE THEM UNQUOTE). THEY SUGGESTED THAT HIGH-LEVEL US MISSION TO SELECTED AFRICAN COUNTRIES WOULD BE HELPFUL IF, BUT ONLY IF, CAREFUL PREPARATORY WORK WERE DONE TO ENSURE THAT THOSE VISITED UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY US POSITION, AND WHAT CHANGES US IS SEEKING.

3. COMMENT: ALL ILO OFFICIALS WERE PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY HELPFUL TO EMBASSY OFFICIALS COVERING THE CONFERENCE, AND THEY CLEARLY EXERTED A STRONG MODERATING FORCE ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES. THEY OBVIOUSLY HAVE A VESTED INTEREST IN TRYING TO LAVOID US WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ILO, BUT IN EACH CASE, SINCERITY OF APPROACH OBVIOUSLY WENT BEYOND SIMPLE CONCERN WITH ORGANIZATION'S PAYROLL.

SAMUELS UNQUOTE KISSINGER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 082522

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE082522
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/LABW:APALMER:OF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760129-1082
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760491/aaaadacx.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <01 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMENT OF ILO OFFICIALS ON US LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW
TAGS: PORG, US, ILO
To: BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006